



August is National
Immunization
Awareness Month

June 2005 Volume 8.2

SHOT TALK

Back to School Immunization Drive

Parents should be scheduling appointments with their physicians now to ensure that their children's immunizations are up to date and ready for the first day of school. To help parents and students meet immunization requirements plans are well underway for this year's back to school immunization campaign. The San Antonio Metropolitan Health District (SAMHD) has collaborated with several community partners to offer Back to School Immunization services at the events listed below:

- ✓ July 16th – Carnaval de Salud, Frank Garrett Community Center, 1226 North West 18th St., 9:00 am -1:00 pm
- ✓ July 23rd – Council District 4 Health Fair, SAMHD Southwest Branch Clinic, 9011 Poteet Jourdanton HWY, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm.
- ✓ July 30th – Shots for Kids Immunization Drive, Crossroads Convention Center, 4522 Fredericksburg Rd., 10:00 am – 4 pm.
- ✓ August 8, 9 & 10 – SAMHD Immunization Drive, Alamodome, 100 Montana, 10:00 am – 6:00 pm.
- ✓ August 13th – Univision's Latina Health Fair, San Antonio College Gym, 1300 San Pedro, 9:00 am– 2:00 pm.

There are no fees for children who present a valid Medicaid or CHIP card. For children who are eligible for the Vaccines For Children Program, there will be a \$5.00 fee per vaccination. All others will be charged the full price for each vaccination and parents will be responsible for filing a claim with insurance companies. For more information on the Back to School Drive contact Sandra Hermosa at 207-2084.

2005-06 School Entry Requirements

Summer is here and Back to School time will follow all too quickly for area students. A summary of school entry requirements follows:

Diphtheria Tetanus Toxoid and Pertussis Vaccine (DTP, DTaP, DT, Td) – Students entering Kindergarten will be required to show proof of five doses of any combination of DTaP/DTP unless the 4th

dose was given on or after the 4th birthday. Students 7 years of age or older are required to show three doses of any combination Td/DT/DTP/DTaP/DT and one dose of TD ten years after last does of DTP/DTaP/DT.

Polio - Children entering Kindergarten will be required to show proof of four doses of polio vaccine, one of which must have been received on or after the 4th birthday. 1st through 12th grade students will be required to have four doses, unless the 3rd dose was received on or after the 4th grade.

Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR) – Students attending Kindergarten through 12th will be required to show proof of two doses of a measles-containing vaccine with the first dose received on or after the first birthday and the second dose by age 5 or entry into kindergarten.

Hepatitis B - Students attending Kindergarten through 11th grade will be required to show proof of three doses of hepatitis B vaccine.

Varicella - Students attending Kindergarten through 5th grade and 7th through 11th grade will need to show proof of one dose of varicella vaccine (two doses if vaccine was received at 13 years of age or older).

Hepatitis A – Students entering Kindergarten through 3rd grade will be required to show proof of 2 doses received on or after their 2nd birthday for 40 Texas counties including Bexar County. For a complete list of counties which require Hepatitis A vaccination go to <http://www.tdh.state.tx.us/immunize/docs/school/6-14.pdf>.

Effective December 30, 2004, the Health and Human Services Commissioner (HHSC) on behalf of the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) adopted an amendment concerning the transfer of immunization records for military dependents enrolling in, attending, and/or transferring to public or private elementary or secondary schools.

§97.69. Transfer of Records

(a) A student can be enrolled provisionally for no more than 30 days if he/she transfers from one Texas school to another, and is awaiting the transfer of the immunization record.

(b) A dependent of a person who is on active duty with the armed forces of the United States can be enrolled provisionally for no more than 30 days if he/she transfers from one school to another and is awaiting the transfer of the immunization record.

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For more information on school or day care entry requirements you can call DSHS at 1-800-252-9152 or go to <http://www.tdh.state.tx.us/immunize>

VFC Appreciation Breakfast A Hit!

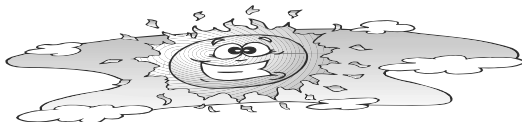
The San Antonio Metropolitan Health District celebrated National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW) from April 24-30, 2005. The highlight of the week was the 8th Annual National Infant Immunization Week-Vaccines for Children Appreciation Breakfast held on April 28th at the Institute of Texan Cultures. The event was well attended and VFC providers were recognized for impressive immunization initiatives. Dr. Michael Pichichero, an internationally recognized authority in pediatric vaccines, was the keynote speaker whose presentation, **Vaccines of the Future**, captured the audience's attention and imagination.

The VFC staff has begun planning for next year's NIIW celebration and would like input from VFC Providers. If you would be more likely to attend an evening event, lunchtime event, or a morning event we'd like to hear from you. Please call Vivian Flores at 207-2868 with your time preference and any suggestions you have to increase VFC Provider attendance at this annual gathering.

Vaccine Trials Recruit New Clients

The San Antonio Metropolitan Health District (SAMHD) will begin recruiting for a Hepatitis A research study. The objective of the study is to evaluate the immunogenicity of administering the Hepatitis A vaccine earlier than currently recommended along with other childhood vaccines. Currently in the United States (US), the Hepatitis A vaccine is not indicated for children below the age of two. Up to 18% of reported Hepatitis A cases occur among children in day-care, their household contacts or employees in day-care centers. It continues to be one of the most frequently reported vaccine-preventable diseases. Vaccination of children at a younger age would help to decrease the number of Hepatitis A cases.

Eligible clients include healthy children, 12-13 months of age. The study consists of five visits over a twenty-month period and blood samples will be obtained from all enrolled subjects. Parent or guardian must be willing to comply with study guidelines. Subjects participating in the study will be financially compensated and offered recommended immunizations free of charge. For more information please contact Marcela Martinez at 207-3968. Be sure to read the next issue of Shot Talk to stay informed about ongoing and future clinical trials.



VFC Site Visit Successes Continue

Since our last newsletter the Quality Assurance/AFIX (QA/AFIX) team has been busy visiting "Hot Shot" offices. The heat is definitely on!! The QA/AFIX Team has been focused and continues to schedule Quality Assurance/VFC site visits at Vaccines for Children (VFC) Provider locations throughout the area. Site visits provide valuable information to providers on their immunization practice patterns and immunization rates. The objective of the site visit is to ensure that VFC enrolled providers are immunizing patients according to Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) guidelines and adhering to VFC Program guidelines.

The QA/AFIX Team is always willing to assist you in arranging an appointment for a site visit to benefit your facility. The site visit is designed to provide assistance with identifying possible barriers to immunization that may result in low vaccination coverage or missed opportunities for immunization. The primary role of the QA/AFIX Team is to assist providers in finding practical solutions to immunization related dilemmas within their facilities. QA/AFIX is available to help you!!

The members of the QA/AFIX team would like to **THANK** the following providers and their staffs for participating in the QA/AFIX site visit process during this past quarter:

Kubena Pediatrics, Dr. Mueller, Centro-Med-Walzerm Clinic, Community Family Medicine, Dr. Anton J. Jirka, Pinkston Family Practice #2, Alamo City Medical, Dr. David N. Lopez, City Chest Clinic-Refugee Program, First Steps Pediatrics, Reshmey Medical Clinic, BCJSCTF-Southton Juvenile Detention, Dr. Samaniego, Dr. Tenorio, North San Antonio Healthcare Associates, Dr. Tano, Kid-Doc Pediatrics, South Texas Family A.I.D.S. Network, Bishop Earnest T. Dixon Clinic, Alamo City Medical Group-NIX, Health Texas Medical Group-Leon Valley, Reshmey Medical Clinic-Zarzamora, Borenstein, Lipsett, Johnson, Maxwell & Scott, South Texas Center for Pediatric Care-Houston, Dr. Nora I. Valdes, Somerset Family Clinic, South Texas Center for Pediatric Care-Babcock, Alamo City Medical Group-Schertz, Meridian Medical Group, South Texas Center for Pediatric Care-Briggs, Little Texans Pediatrics, South Texas Center for Pediatric Care-Stone Oak, Centro-Med Santa Rosa, Northeast Pediatric Associates, Community Clinic Inc., South Texas Center for Pediatric Care-Southcross, Children First Pediatrics, Helotes Pediatrics, San Antonio Family Medical Clinic, Dr. Brickman, Pediatric Associates Clock Tower, Family Care and Minor Emergency Center, Dr. Kesavulu, Dr. Garcia, Dr. Daniel Kellum, Lanier Student Based Clinic, Dr. Kost, SAMHD-STD, SAMHD-Adult Adolescent Program, APAC Family Clinic, Dr. Abraham-Cox, Southwest Clinic, Dr. David Ochoa, Por Vida Academy Charter High School, Trinity Care Center, Family Doctors Office-Guadalupe, Kellum Medical Clinic-Adkins, Dr. Sanchez, Southeast Baptist Hospital, Centro-Med Southside Clinic, Dr. Do, Dr. Xavier Cortada, La Mission Family Healthcare and Dr. Ng.

Congratulations are in order for the following providers that achieved outstanding immunization coverage rates during the past quarter: First Steps Pediatrics (100%), South Texas Center for Pediatric Care-Houston (100%), South Texas Center for Pediatric Care-Stone Oak (100%), Northeast Pediatric Associates (100%), Office of Dr. Abraham-Cox (95%), South Texas Center for Pediatric Care-Briggs (93%), Helotes Pediatrics (90%), Dr. Xavier Cortada (90%), Kellum Medical Clinic-Adkins (90%), Pediatric Associates Clock Tower (89%), Dr. Brickman (88%), Children First Pediatrics (86%), Reshme Medical Clinic-Zarzamora (83%), Kid-Doc Pediatrics (82%), Family Care & Minor Emergency Center (81%), South Texas Center for Pediatric Care-Southcross (80%), and Dr. Kesavulu (80%). The percentage indicates their immunization rates and children seen by their practices are up-to-date on their required immunizations of 4 DTaP, 3 Polio, 1 MMR, 3 Hib, 3 Hep B and 1VAR by 24 months of age. All of these facilities invested substantial efforts towards improving children's immunization coverage levels within their practices. **JOB WELL DONE!!** Keep up the great work!!

Special recognition goes out to **Northeast Pediatric Associates, South Texas Center for Pediatric Care-Houston, South Texas Center for Pediatric Care-Stone Oak, and First Steps Pediatrics** for receiving a perfect score of 100%. Immunizing on time is definitely a top priority for these offices. Impressive work!!



Northeast Pediatric Associates



South Texas Center for Pediatric Care – Houston



South Texas Center for Pediatric Care – Stone Oak



First Steps Pediatrics



Dr. Gloria Abraham-Cox & Staff

We would like to once again thank our VFC providers for your outstanding dedication and commitment toward keeping the children in our community healthy. Your continued participation in our VFC Program is sincerely appreciated, we commend you all for the excellent work you do!!

VFC providers are encouraged to use the Clinical Assessment Software Application (CASA) to simplify keeping patient's immunization status up-to-date. The software is free of charge and the QA/AFIX staff is available to assist with training and installation. For more information or to schedule a site visit, please contact Kenya Wilson at 207-3974.

FDA Approves Two Pertussis Vaccines

Pertussis is a highly communicable and potentially serious illness in adolescents and adults, and can cause prolonged cough and missed days at school

and work. In young infants, pertussis is more frequently severe and can be fatal, particularly in those too young to be fully vaccinated. Since 1980, the rates of reported pertussis cases have been increasing in adolescents and adults, as well as in young infants. Adolescents and adults have been implicated as the source of pertussis infection for susceptible young infants, and other family members.

BOOSTRIX

On May 3, 2005 the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved the first combination vaccine that provides a booster immunization against pertussis (whooping cough) in combination with tetanus and diphtheria for adolescents. The vaccine will be marketed as Boostrix by GlaxoSmithKline (GSK in Philadelphia, Pa.). Although booster vaccines for adolescents containing tetanus and diphtheria are currently licensed and marketed for use in this age group, none contain a pertussis component. Boostrix has the same components as Infanrix, a DTaP vaccine for infants and young children, but in reduced quantities. Boostrix is indicated for use as a single booster dose to adolescents 10-18 years of age.

ADACEL

On June 10, 2005 the FDA approved a new vaccine for a single booster immunization against pertussis (whooping cough), in combination with tetanus and diphtheria, for adolescents and adults 11-64 years of age. The vaccine will be marketed as Adacel by Aventis Pasteur Limited located in Toronto, Canada. Adacel is the first vaccine approved as a pertussis booster for adults. Adacel contains the same components as Daptacel, a DTaP vaccine indicated for infants and children manufactured by Aventis Pasteur Limited, but the diphtheria toxoid and one of the pertussis components are in reduced quantities.

Source: FDA Talk Paper, May 3, 2005 & June 10 2005.

National Immunization Awareness Month

August is recognized as National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM). The goal of NIAM is to increase awareness about immunizations across the lifespan, from infants to the elderly.

This year's campaign is focused around the theme, "Are You Up to Date? Vaccinate!," to remind people of all ages of the importance of immunization. August is the perfect time to remind family, friends, co-workers, and those in the community to catch up on their vaccinations. Parents are enrolling their children in school, students are entering college, and health care workers are preparing for the upcoming flu season.

A variety of resources promoting immunization and NIAM, including brochures, stickers, posters and information about various community initiatives, are

available by visiting the National Partnership for Immunization at www.partnersforimmunization.org.



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Immunization Resource Sites

SAMHD: www.sanantonio.gov/health

DSHS: www.dshs.state.tx.us

CDC: www.cdc.gov/nip

IAC: www.immunize.org

National Network for Immunization Information:
www.immunizationinfo.org/

Allied Vaccine Group: www.vaccine.org

Institute for Vaccine Safety (IVS):
www.vaccinesafety.edu

National Network of Immunization Nurses and Associates (NNINA):
www.nursingworld.org/innpower/nnina.htm